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FOOTBALL CLUB

SEASON 1968-69

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1965-66**

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Physiotherapist : - - - - JIM SPARKS
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 1968

Kick-off 3 p.m.

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CLUB NOTES

Good afternoon Ladies & Gentlemen,

To-day, we are very pleased to welcome to Wealdstone for this important 1st round F.A. cup-tie, our very good friends from Clarence Park, St. Albans City. They, like us, are enjoying a respectable position in the Isthmian league, and since we beat them 3-2 in the first match of the season, our visitors have had some very good results, and have beaten some very good sides. Therefore, as some people suggest, this is no certainty for our boys, they will have to go all out from the off, if they are to make history for Wealdstone, by reaching the second round of the cup for the first time. Our visitors are coached by Sid Prosser, who is reputed to be one of the ablest coaches in Amateur football, and Sid, together with his two giants, Dick East the very popular secretary of St. Albans, and Keith Lawrence a great personality in the Isthmian league, have been at Lower Mead running the rule over us, and whether they have learned anything new about us is anybody's guess, but we may be sure that they have certainly made

plans to contain us, and note any weak spots that they think we might have.

Our visitors beat Corby Town away in the last round, which was a very good performance indeed, Butterfield scoring after a Bobby Childs free kick had been charged down. According to match reports, they are a very difficult side to beat, so everything looks set for a very keen and exciting tussle to-day. As our supporters know, we beat the very big Slough Town team here in the replay, after drawing on their ground, and this should give Wealdstone great confidence in trying to beat our fellow Isthmian league colleagues to-day. Anyway, we here at Lower Mead, hope that the best side wins, and have the luck of the draw in the next round.

At the time of compiling these notes we have Tony McGuinness, Dave Leonard and former St. Albans player Dave Bromley on the injured list, and every effort is being made to get these boys fit for the fray. Also Denny Montague came through the reserve match with Dulwich Hamlet last Saturday successfully, but whether coach Dave Underwood will risk him in this important match,

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Club Notes (Continued)

must be left to Dave's intuition and wisdom. St. Albans too, have their injury problems, and as they do not run a reserve team, they are therefore limited in numbers of players on their books, and we being sportsmen at Wealdstone, sincerely hope that injured stars, Micky Harman and Phil Wood are both fully fit to turn out to try and beat us. Our former player Bobby Childs has been playing very well lately, and our defenders must watch out for those twirling corners and free kicks that Bobby has perfected, and other dangerous goal snatchers for the visitors are Billy Broomfield, Jeff Butterfield and Bill Ratty. Defender Les Burgess the former Chesham captain has settled in well and has certainly tightened up the defence, but both Dick East and Keith Lawrence paid glowing remarks to new goalkeeper Ron Whiteaker who has given his colleagues that extra confidence, when knowing that their last line of defence is very safe, and solid, of course Ron was understudy to England goalkeeper Swannell at Hendon for a number of seasons and should have learned quite a lot. Other St. Albans stalwarts are

Derek Gibbs who signed from Hitchin, after playing there for a number of years, and former Finchley player, Neville who is a tower of strength at wing half. Sid Prosser has got together a very formidable side, sure to give us a lot of trouble.

After our ordeal to-day, we face further strong opposition next Saturday when league champions and present leaders Enfield are our visitors. Although naturally all our thoughts are on to-days cup match with all the fame and glamour it produces, we nevertheless must not forget that we must try and get a high position in the league as well, and two points against Enfield would be ideal, and bring us much closer to

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L. G. MEAD, F.C.A., F.C.I.S., Secretary.

Club Notes (Continued)

the leaders, and also of the teams directly above us. We still have to play Hitchin, Sutton, Leytonstone and Hendon at home, so the possibilities of getting near the top are not beyond us. If to-days match brings a definite result, then we will be playing away to Tooting on Wednesday.

The Middlesex team who played their Southern Amateur Championship game against Essex here last Monday, went under by 7-0. They were beaten by a solid, fast and football playing side that certainly knew the way to goal, especially Brian Collett, the Walthamstow Avenue player who notched five of his side's goals. Middlesex alas, were outplayed in every department, and it must have been a very long time since Andy Williams has let in 7 goals in one match, although most of the blame must lay at the way the Middlesex defenders left huge gaps in the middle, which Collett and his colleagues made full use of. Andy didn't have much chance, Dave Swain tried very hard in the Middlesex attack, and was their best forward,

while Bernie Bremer although doing one or two useful things, wasn't in the game a great deal, but chief culprit with bad shooting was little Johnnie Connell, who planted them high and wide continuously. Let's hope that he does the same next Saturday for Enfield.

The boys had a good win at Barking last Saturday, beating the home side by two goals to nil, both goals coming during injury time. John Hutchinson and Keith Searle were our scorers, and very good performances were put up by Tony McGuinness, Andy Williams, Charlie Townsend and Keith Searle.

H. J. B.

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SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

Good afternoon Ladies & Gentlemen,

Welcome back to Lower Mead for what must surely be our most important match of the season so far, and one which, should we win, will do nothing but good for the club. This tie guarantees at least one amateur club in the second round proper and the publicity received for winning through to this stage of the competition is alone a sizeable reward, and of course the prospect of a bumper gate against League opposition, perhaps, in the next round is an added bonus.

At this point, I must welcome, on behalf of the club, players, officials and supporters of St. Albans City F.C., a fine side and worthy opposition for such an occasion. As 'Stones

supporters probably know, we have already beaten St. Albans in the League, at home, this season by a 3-2 scoreline, Bremer, Hutchinson and Lindsay being our scorers. However, since then St. Albans have improved as their results show, but I'm confident our lads are more than equal to anything they can throw at us.

St. Albans are a fine attacking side and one of the most entertaining sides in the league, quite a contrast to our opposition in the last round with their off-side tactics.

Now to the match, let's ALL join in to cheer the 'Stones to victory because the people who usually do all the shouting are getting rather hoarse, and the boys will need your support to-day.

"COME ON THE 'STONES"

P. S. F.

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